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A DIRECTORY AND WORK OF REFERENCE ON ALL IMPORTANT LOCAL SUBJECTS FOR HONGKONG, MACAO, CHINA, JAPAN, THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, SIAM, INDO-CHINA, NORTH BORNEO, THE PHILIPPINES, AND CORREA, FOR THE YEAR 1893.

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The various Governments and Municipal Corporations, and all Public Bodies and Companies, Bankers, Merchants, Consuls, Professional men, and other Residents, have supplied the necessary matter, upon forms specially sent for that purpose so as to ensure accuracy. The Naval and Military portions have been taken from the latest published official lists and revised at Headquarters; in fact, no pains have been spared to make "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" a handy and perfectly reliable book of reference for all classes.

In addition to the information enumerated above, "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" for 1893 contains a carefully revised

INDEX TO THE ORDINANCES OF HONGKONG.
A SPECIAL LIST OF FOREIGNERS employed in Steamers making short voyages from Hongkong;

THE PRIVATE RESIDENCES of the Principal Government Officials, the Leading Merchants, the Foreign Consuls, Professional Men, Justices of the Peace, &c.

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THREE DOLLARS.
There is not space in the compass of an Ordinary Advertisement to detail all the information introduced into the work, but it may be fairly asserted that no such Directory has ever been published, either in Hongkong or any other part of the East, at such a low price.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" offers Special Advantages as an Advertising Medium. It has an extensive circulation in all Ports between Singapore and Newchwang, in the Australasian Colonies, the United States, and the United Kingdom, and the scale of charges has been fixed at an exceptionally low rate. Terms can be learned on application.

Suggestions for the improvement of this work are respectfully solicited.

Orders for COPIES, and for ADVERTISEMENTS may be sent to the Agents at the various Ports, or to the Office of

"THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH,"
PRINCE'S HILL, HONGKONG.
Hongkong, 30th January, 1893.

Intimations.
VICTORIA DISPENSARY.
FLUID EXTRACT OF MALT.

THE use of that extremely valuable Food and Remedy EXTRACT OF MALT has been retarded by its usually viscous condition; to obviate this objection we have had prepared a FLUID EXTRACT OF MALT as easily poured out of the bottle and measured into doses as any other Fluid.

It contains as much of the DIASTASE as any viscous EXTRACT OF MALT and is therefore fully as active in its nourishing and digestive power.

Two table-spoonfuls of our FLUID EXTRACT OF MALT contain more nutritive and digestive value than a pint of the strongest Ale or Stout.
In 10 bottles 75 cents. Per dozen \$8.00.
Hongkong, 12th January, 1893.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.
WINES AND SPIRITS.

WE invite attention to the following Brands, all of which are excellent quality and good value for the money.
The same being specially selected by our London House, and bought direct from the most noted Shippers, are imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best goods at moderate prices.

In ordering it is only necessary to state the name and quality of Wine or Spirit wanted, and initial letter for quality desired.

PORTS. (For Invalids and General Use)

	Per Case.	Per Bottle.
A. Alto Douro, good quality, Green Capsule, \$10	\$1.00	
B. Vintage, superior quality, Red Capsule, 12	1.10	
C. Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule, 14	1.25	
D. Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled), 18	1.50	

SHERRIES.

A. Delicate Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Capsule, 6	0.60	
B. Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capsule, 7.50	0.75	
C. Manzanilla, Pale Natural Sherry, White Capsule, 10	1.00	
C. C. Superior Old Dry, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal Capsule, 10	1.00	
D. Very Superior Old Pale Dry, choice old wine, White Seal Capsule, 12	1.10	
E. Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very finest quality, Black Seal Capsule (Old Bottled), 14	1.25	

CLARETS.

A. Superior Breakfast Claret, Red Capsule, 4	\$4.50	
B. St. Etienne, Red Capsule, 4.50	1.00	
C. St. Julien, Red Capsule, 7	7.50	
D. La Rose, Red Capsule, 11	12.00	
E. Saline, Red Capsule, 5	5.50	
F. Chateau d'Anglade, 8	8.50	
G. Chateau Haut Brion, 12	18.00	
H. Chateau Mouton d'Armailhacq, 19	20.00	

MADEIRA AND CHAMPAGNES.

FULL PARTICULARS OF VARIOUS BRANDS ON APPLICATION.

BRANDY.

A. Hennessy's Old Pale, Red Capsule, 13	\$1.20	
B. Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Capsule, 15	1.40	
C. Very Old Liqueur Cognac, 20	1.75	
D. Hennessy's Finest, Very Old Liqueur Cognac, 1872 Vintage, Red Capsule, 30	2.50	

WHISKY.

SCOTCH.

A. Theon's Blend, White Capsule, 8	0.75	
B. Watson's Glenorchy Mellow Blend, Blue Capsule, with Name and Trade Mark, 8	0.75	
C. Watson's Abolour, Glenorchy, Red Capsule, with Name and Trade Mark, 8	0.75	
D. Watson's H.K.D. Blend of the Finest Scotch Malt Whiskies, Violet Capsule, 10	1.00	
E. Watson's Very Old Liqueur Whisky, Gold Capsule, 12	1.10	
F. Daniel Crawford's Finest Very Old Scotch Whisky, 10	1.00	

IRISH.

A. John Jameson's Old, Green Capsule, 8	0.75	
B. John Jameson's Fine Old, Green Capsule, 10	1.00	
C. John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capsule, 12	1.10	

AMERICAN.

Genuine Bourbon Whisky, Fine Old, Red Capsule, with our Name & Trade Mark, 10	1.00	
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GIN.

A. Fine Old Tom, White Capsule, 4.50	0.40	
B. Fine Unswetened, White Capsule, 4.50	0.40	
C. Fine A. V. H. Geneva, 5.25	0.50	

RUM.

Finest Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule, 12	1.00	
Finest Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule, \$5.50 per Gallon.		
Good Legward Island, \$5.50 per Gallon.		

LIQUEURS.

Benedictine, 10		
Maraschino, 10		
Cherry, 10		
Cherry, 10		
Cherry, 10		

PRICES ON APPLICATION.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY, ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841. Hongkong, 16th January, 1893.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.
SUBSCRIBERS TO "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" ARE MOST RESPECTFULLY REMINDED THAT ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

BIRTH.
On the 20th instant, at Shamien, Canton, the wife of Mr. C. PAPPE, I. M. Customs, of a daughter. Scotch papers please copy.

MARRIAGE.
On the 21st February, at Abergeldie, The Peak, by the Rev. GUTHRIE, OTTO MEIER, of Shanghai, to Miss GERTRUD LANGSCHWARTZ, of Hamburg.

The Hongkong Telegraph.
HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1893.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

PROFESSOR Chamberlain of the Tokio University has gone on an investigating expedition to the Loochoos.

A CHINESE child who fell from the verandah of a house in Wyndham Street a few days ago died at the Alice Memorial Hospital, to-day.

A HOUSE on the Yokohama Banch occupied by Mr. Paul Koch and owned by Mr. Alex. Clark was burnt down on the 3rd inst. House and contents were insured.

A REGULAR meeting of Victoria Lodge, No. 1025, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, this evening, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

THE difference between the Chartered Bank and the North National Bank of Japan, arising from the disappearance of a \$1,000 note in the premises of the latter, has, it is stated, been settled.

At the Magistrate's to-day a coolie who had picked a pair of shoes off a stall "only to look at them" but had forgotten to put them back was sent to gaol for 21 days to think over what he saw.

LADY Robinson distributed some more prizes this afternoon, and made a speech as usual. This sort of thing is becoming monotonous. We would respectfully suggest a song as a change.

A REGULAR meeting of Zetland Lodge, No. 525, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, on Wednesday, the 1st proximo, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

FOR snatching a pair of gold and jade-stone earrings from a woman in Wanchai yesterday, a coolie was sent to gaol by Capt. Hastings for 30 days for 30 days, with 12 strokes on entry and 18 on departure.

THE Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co. informs us that the steamship *Carthage*, with the next English mail, left Singapore for this port at 2 p.m. yesterday, and is expected here about 4 p.m. on the 26th inst.

In Echigo Province, Niigata Prefecture, Japan, the fall of snow about the end of last month was greater than has been known for a hundred years past. In some places there was a depth of snow of 2 1/2 to 3 feet.

ONLY an item from yesterday's shipping news. "Arrived as deck passengers, 16 Jews." The relative geographical positions of Hongkong and Bagdad will have to be seriously considered when the next map of this island is being drawn up.

"As we go to press the Clerk of the Court notifies that H. E. the Governor will open the new Grand Stand at the race course to-morrow at noon, not as previously intimated. Ladies are invited to attend the ceremony and also the races which follow.

RELIABLE information reaches us from Chinese sources to the effect that the New Year settling-up has been infinitely more satisfactory this year than last; there have only been three or four houses unable to start the new year with a clean sheet, against as many scores in 1892.

THE Post Office notice of ships signalled passing Gap Rock or Diaoguo is very useful, and is often not very faithfully observed; but when the steamers have actually got into the harbour and are notified in the usual way, surely the notices from the customs might be taken down.

ACCORDING to our Northern exchanges, the Vladivostok convict station has been leaking so badly that very large numbers of desperate criminals, mostly from the Caucasus regions, sailing themselves "Turks," have got loose and are wandering southwards, as did the *Nürnberg* tramps.

THE Japanese House of Representatives re-assembled on the 7th. The Address to the Throne, which is practically an impeachment of the Ministry, was carried by a majority of 79, and a subsequent motion for suspending the sittings of the House until the 25th inst. was carried by a majority of 72, and the House adjourned.

THERE have recently been in the American papers numerous wild stories of the *Embera* steamers being ordered off the Pacific and on the Atlantic run, the Galion liners being engaged for the Northern Pacific, whalebacks being built for the Japan and China trade, and so on. These are all absolutely unfounded, as far as is known at present, existing arrangements will not be altered in any respect whatever.

THE Stewards of the Jockey Club have courteously issued through the press a general invitation to the ladies of Hongkong to attend the opening of the new Grand Stand at Happy Valley by the Governor at noon to-morrow. This will be served at one Mr. Osborne, of the Bay View Hotel, will also have a buffet and refreshment pavilion, with his celebrated oyster cocktails and oyster stew always on hand.

AMONG the passengers who left here in the *Saghalin* for Marseilles to-day was Mr. Chantrey Ingham, so long and favourably known in Eastern banking and commercial circles. Mr. Ingham has managed the local branch of the Bank of China, Japan and the Straits for some time past, but has had to relinquish his post on account of failing health. It is to be hoped that the favourable influences of a trip to Europe will be the means of restoring him to better health. He is accompanied by Mr. Jacobson.

THE loss of the steamer *Nemesis*, though she was a comparatively small vessel, is, says the *Tokio Daily News*, a very serious one. There was much valuable cargo on board, including gold, silk, indigo, and last but not least, opium. Much of the cargo was, no doubt, insured, and the loss will fall on the insurance companies. It is satisfactory to notice that, as regards the opium, the insurance has been promptly paid by the South British Marine Insurance Company of New Zealand. It is not stated that policies are so promptly paid, especially where large sums are involved.

FEARS increase concerning the safety of the largest German sailing-vessel which was ever launched, the *Maria Rickmers*, a new steel vessel of nearly 6,000 tons burden, rigged with five masts, and powered by an auxiliary engine of 160 nominal horse-power. She passed Anjer Straits on 17th July last on a voyage from Saigon to Fa-mouh with rice, and has not arrived yet. It is feared, says the *Singapore Free Press*, that it is a large vessel, which was on her first voyage, has capsized, as all her spars, as well as her rigging, were made of steel, and instead of rope ladders, all her shrouds were fastened by screws, which could not be easily cut away if the vessel was overtaken by a squall. Her crew consisted of 73 hands all told, or 13 to every 100 tons register, a manning which is thought far too small by experts.

THE Shanghai morning paper calls attention to the character of some pictures which are being published in the native city there, and which are being largely sold in the outlying districts, and particularly in Taung-ming Island; by one means badly executed reproductions, but otherwise it is a very objectionable article, inasmuch as its evident object is to encourage contempt for foreigners by the deliberate misrepresentation of facts. Li Hung-chang and the late Tiao Tsung-tang are depicted sitting in an audience hall surrounded by a numerous suite. In the foreground three English, French, and German officers of obsequious mien are represented, and the letter-press says that "the Frenchman is suing for peace with China." The picture bears the imprint of a printer in the native city, and copies are being readily bought by the country people at 12 cents each, and hung up in their homes, in the firm belief that the drawing represents an incident which actually took place. There are other pictures of a similarly lying character, and it is evident that their circulation can have no good effect.

SINGAPORE did not share in Hongkong's immunity from fires during the celebrations of the Chinese New Year. Early on the morning of the 18th a disastrous fire occurred there resulting in the destruction of no less than 21 houses. The amount of damage done has not yet been accurately estimated. The whole of the property destroyed belonged to Mr. J. Crawford, of London, formerly Resident Commissioner in Singapore in the days of the old East India Company, and was insured for \$21,000 with the Netherlands India Fire Insurance Co. Messrs. Guthrie and Co. are the Agents of Mr. Crawford, the Netherlands India Fire Insurance Co. being represented locally by Messrs. Anglo-Indo-Chinese Bank, Ltd.

As yet is uncertain, but so far as hold lines representing about \$35,000, of which \$12,000 is re-insured, and of the remainder some \$23,000 represents policies which were lately taken over from the Singapore Insurance Co. in one instance a policy was held on a stock of tin, which it is expected will be recovered, although some loss is anticipated, but the total losses of the Straits Insurance Co. will, it is estimated, amount to over \$37,000. The total amount of damage caused by loss of stock must, however, be something considerable, assuming the value of the buildings to be as heavily stocked for the New Year as they were known to be in some instances; and calculating at this rate, the actual damage to merchandise must amount to considerably more than \$150,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

SUPREME COURT.
IN CRIMINAL SESSION.
(Before Mr. E. J. Akeroyd, Putnam Judge.)
February 22nd.
A LIGHT SENTENCE.
The four Chinese, convicted yesterday by the jury, were brought up to be sentenced for entering the house of Mr. M. F. de Carvalho with intent to commit a felony on the 30th ultimo. His lordship said that the prisoners had been most ably defended (by Mr. Pollock) but had not been caught in any actual violence, a light sentence would meet the case—three months' hard labour each.

(Before Chief Justice Fielding Clarke.)

THE ALLEGED PEARL ROBBERY.
Luigi Dellaglio was charged with obtaining from the Post Office in Hongkong on February 16th last a registered letter containing about 200 pearls, and 500 francs in Bank of France notes, by falsely representing himself to be Dr. Leon Paris, a doctor.

THE Attorney-General wished to amend the charge, which had been framed that the Court was occupied an hour in putting the right. Meanwhile the witnesses, several from the Post Office, and the jury were kept waiting until after the time of closing the mail for Europe.

Ultimately the following were called to serve on the jury—A. G. Aiken, J. W. Kennedy (absent), Koh Cheng Sean (excused), A. H. da Silva, E. M. da Silva, A. M. Barandas, D. W. Crook, G. A. Caldwell and A. Brull.

The same as that previously offered was substantially the same as that previously offered in the Police Court and reported at the time; it was disallowed by the Lordship as not proper evidence.

The jury after a short retirement unanimously found a verdict of "not guilty."

His Lordship—I may say, Mr. Attorney-General, that I regret very much a certain insufficiency of the evidence for the prosecution, in one direction. I cannot see why this man's father (who was said to have sent the pearls) was not produced. I cannot see why the prosecution did not get him here.

The Attorney-General explained that at least two months would have been occupied in bringing him out from Italy, and the expense would have been great. In a civil case, the evidence could have been taken on commission; but as that could not be done in this case, the prosecution had been unwilling to go to such great expense and detain the prisoner so much longer on a mere chance. The Attorney-General had done his best.

His Lordship—I quite understand that, Mr. Attorney-General, and I quite understand your verdict, gentlemen of the jury. The Court is adjourned until Monday, at ten o'clock.

The Prisoner—Your Lordship, if you will permit me I should like to say something before you go. I thank you very much for what you did for me. I am a poor distressed man, I have no money, I have been kept in prison seven months, what can I do now? I cannot rob, I cannot get living.

His Lordship could not do anything.

MITCHELL-INNES AND HIS CHEQUE.

In the police court to-day the assistant magistrate, Capt. Hastings, passed sentence of seven days imprisonment on the coolie who was charged (as previously reported) with attempting to obtain from the H. and S. Bank \$20,000, by means of a cheque drawn and signed by Mr. Mitchell-Innes, and paid and cancelled by the Bank. Prisoner pleaded that he found the cheque on the floor of the house formerly occupied by Mr. Mitchell-Innes, and took it to his friend to ask what it was, and that the friend took him to the Bank and tried to get the cheque cashed. This was not proved, and sentence was passed as stated above.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in this Company was held to-day. Mr. H. L. Dalrymple presided and there were also present Messrs. D. R. Sassoon, J. Kramer, C. Janzen, H. Hopplius (Directors), J. B. Coughtrie (secretary), H. Crawford, C. A. Osorio, J. S. Laprak, E. Burnley, R. Lyall, G. C. Cox, J. H. Cox, D. Byramjee, L. R. Michael, J. Thurnburn, G. Slade, C. Taylor, H. Hunter, S. G. Bird, P. V. Grant, G. Sharp, E. Sharp, V. A. C. Hawkins, H. H. Joseph, W. J. Saunders, E. F. Alford and G. S. North.

The Chairman said:—With your permission, Gentlemen, we will follow the usual course at these meetings, and take the report and accounts now before you, as read. I think we may congratulate the shareholders on the satisfactory nature of the figures now presented. The result of the year 1892 can only be regarded as very good, and the hope expressed this last year that we might fully maintain our dividend and materially add to the reserve has been most fully realized. You will naturally expect some allusion to be made to the correspondence which took place in December and January last, between shareholders in Shanghai and your directors; the facts then elicited will be fresh in your memory, and I do not think any useful purpose will be served by entering very much into detail at this date. I must, however, say a few words in support of the policy which your directors deemed it prudent to pursue, and whilst fully recognising the views and wishes of our friends, and desiring in every possible way to meet them, as far as practicable, I can only, on behalf of the Board, confirm the argument in connection with the reserve fund. I may also state that since our reply was received in Shanghai we understand from various expressions of opinion on the part of some shareholders of the Shanghai letter of 23rd December that the reasons put forward by the directors have caused a different view to be taken of the position and that such shareholders are now more or less in accord with the action we had deemed it incumbent upon us to adopt and pursue in the interest of our operations, the insuring public, who are the essential mainstay of a Fire Company; it must be borne in mind that keen competition has brought about a serious cutting-down of rates on those current in the early days of the Company, and that notwithstanding this, the premium increase has very much expanded, which will be evidence to you how immensely increased are the risks and how vitally important it is that we should above all things continue to build up our reserve. In the case of our company, whose operations are confined to a comparatively limited field, it is highly desirable that the reserve should be large in order, first, to inspire the fullest confidence amongst and to protect the insuring community, and secondly to provide for the possibility of losses of exceptional severity. In the original prospectus of this Company and in the Articles of Association stress was laid on the fact that a reserve fund of one million dollars should be formed. The promoters and early directors were so fully impressed with the importance of building up this fund that they insisted on their temporary interests greatly in order to accomplish this end. Later on, the directors decided to modify the policy of their predecessors, but whilst doing so they emphatically stated that "it must be understood that the directors are fully alive to the importance of adding to this fund until the Company is placed in the strongest financial position." Whilst this feeling has continued to animate the Board up to the present time, it is instructive to refer to what has been done for the shareholders' assistance and reserve fund respectively, during the three periods of seven years each:—1870—1876, dividends to shareholders, \$316,000, reserve additions, \$348,896; 1877—1883, dividends to shareholders, \$480,000, reserve additions, \$170,022; 1884—1890, dividends to shareholders, \$820,000, reserve additions, \$221,522. During the past twelve years, owing to the sole initiative of the Directors, an excess of \$61,059 have been paid as dividends to shareholders over and above what would have been done to them under the original Articles of Association, whilst the additions to our reserve fund have been \$227,447, than was provided for by the said Articles; had this not been modified the reserve fund would have attained its one million dollars in 1891. Gentlemen, having now touched upon the points connected with the Company's year Directors are very pleased that the result of 1892 should have proved so handsome, and whilst maintaining this policy as regards building up the reserve, to which it is now proposed to add \$40,000, it is very gratifying to them to be able to recommend the payment of a final dividend of \$3 for 1892, with the addition of a bonus of \$1 per share out of that year's profits, and an interim dividend of \$3 per share for 1892. In connection with the bonus, I must impress upon you that this should be regarded as exceptional, and must not be counted on as a certainty in the future; our losses for 1892 have been very moderate, but by the ordinary doctrine of chances we cannot expect always to pass so smoothly through succeeding years. I am glad to inform you that so far, our known losses, since the accounts were made up, amount to something under \$300 to date. I must not conclude without referring to a very important item—the Company's investments, viz., Loans on mortgage. Your Directors looking to the general depression which has so long surrounded us decided upon having an independent inspection and valuation of the mortgages held by the Company here. This was undertaken by Mr. Bruce Shephard, than whom we could not have had a more reliable and painstaking authority; and I have much pleasure in being able to inform you that his report on these properties is in every way most satisfactory. The Company's loans are amply secured by the properties held by it under the various mortgages. Our Shanghai loans are likewise quite good. Your Directors are anxious to take the sense of this meeting in regard to enlarging the scope of their powers in investing the funds of the Company, such as debentures in local or Shanghai established Companies, and should shareholders be favourably disposed to the Directors will take steps to convene the necessary meetings to carry out these views. These are all the remarks which occur to me to trouble you with, but before moving the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to afford any further information in my power to any shareholder seeking for such.

Mr. C. S. Taylor asked whether some better-paying investment could not be found for the large sums owned by the Company now on deposit in the banks, at only 4 1/2 per cent.

The Chairman said that he thought the suggestion was covered by what he had said in his speech. The directors wished to put the money in some safe investment which would pay a bigger rate than the banks, but the Board needed more powers than at present allowed by the articles.

There being no further questions, the Chairman proposed that the report and accounts be adopted, and that the dividend of \$3 per share for 1892, the bonus of \$1 for 1892, and the interim dividend of \$3 for 1892 be sanctioned.

Mr. J. H. Cox seconded the motion, which was carried.

On the motion of Capt. Burnley, seconded by Mr. Hawkins, the appointments of Messrs. A. McConnell, D. R. Sassoon, C. Janzen, and J. Kramer as directors were confirmed.

On the motion of Mr. Thurnburn, seconded by Mr. Slade, the retiring directors (Messrs. Wood and Dalrymple) were re-elected.

On the motion of Mr. Bird, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Messrs. J. H. Cox and R. Lyall were re-elected auditors.

Mr. Laprak proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the directors, and also to the secretary, who had worked hard in the interests of the Company for so many years.

Mr. Sharp seconded the motion and strongly commended the prudent policy which the directors had pursued in reference to the reserve fund and other matters.

The Chairman, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, said that with regard to what he had said about increasing the directors' powers in the matter of investing the Company's funds, he understood the meeting to be in favour of the idea. If there was no expression of dissent, the directors would take steps to call special meetings, etc. The business of this meeting was now concluded; he thanked the shareholders for their attendance, and informed them that dividend warrants would be ready on Monday.

TRAINING NOTES.

The commercial blight that has made both day and night hideous in Hongkong for months past, was very strongly in evidence at the Races yesterday morning. The weather was not unfavorable, the track was in fairly good condition for training purposes, there was a large if somewhat nondescript attendance—I noticed some budding dopes, gorgeously arrayed in flannel and velvet, who were clearly in need of patient feeding bottles—but, *however*, there was a killing depression in the atmosphere, which was an entire absence of that sporting element which in days gone by made racing in Hongkong a true enjoyment. Sport in this

As Camel was very easily beaten in a mile "row" by Pepper and Salt—37, 1.15, 1.45, and 2.22—the specially selected Mongolian racer is hardly likely to face the test of the Derby, but with care he may yet see better days. Few China ponies in my time have galloped in such good form as this very clever, jumper (Mr. Hoogh) and Assin (Mr. May) were beaten out of sight by Soler (Mr. Crockett) in a spin over the Valley Stakes distance—31, 5, 1.42, which would appear to make the Jockey Cup a certainty for the Ewo white elephant of a year ago.

The Home Guard of to-day is not the same pony—the only pony that ever stretched the neck of the (invaluable) Hero, but the old mule looks wonderfully fresh and well, and may win a race or two, although 34, 68, 1.46 and 2.20, for a mile, is not very encouraging. Varuna (Mr. Hart) was simply "left" by the old steeplechaser Viper (Mr. Crawford) in a gallop over the Derby distance—38, 1.12, 1.47, 2.21, 2.59 and 3.36—and if this is his true form the rising prospects who have in the Daily Press been confidently predicting his success in every race in which he takes part must look supremely foolish. However, Varuna is a very nice mover and, notwithstanding his fearful collapse yesterday, may yet prove both in the Valley Stakes and German Cup the best of the commonest cargo of racing carillon I have seen for many years.

Colonial's 36, 1.15, 1.52 and 2.26 for a mile looks a hopeless business, and after seeing Torchlight (Mr. Sassoon) walk away from Royalty (Mr. Master) at the end of a mile and a quarter "I am" in 35, 1.11, 1.46, 2.21, and 2.54, I am convinced that the game and stalling winner of the Shanghai St. Leger is out of the hunt this journey. Blooming Heather (Mr. Maclean) went a mile in 2.26, and may be the winner at the finish of the Valley Stakes than the talent (7) imagines. Susewind, in the game athletic hands, made a mile in 36, 1.12, 1.47 and 2.22, but as the old dun has since stiffened up, he is unlikely to face the starter.

Flashlight's mile in 37, 1.14, 1.51, and 2.23 was not a very encouraging performance for a Derby candidate; but when Primrose (Mr. Taylor) came home in 31 and 62, a favorite for the Wong-nel-chong Stakes was at once established. Mr. Midwood rode Khe'dve a mile in 33, 62, 1.43 and 2.17. This pony is a splendid mover, but he can't stay and, I think, an ardent racer. Guardsman's half-mile in 50 seconds is not good enough. Reciprocal and Freight went a mile and a quarter in 35, 1.10, 1.45, 2.20, and 2.55.

Amenable's mile in 34, 68, 1.45, and 2.18 does not suggest superior racing merit, but it may be quite good enough with this crowd; anyhow, it is by far the best show on paper, and probably the rusty-looking black will win both the Valley Stakes and German Cup.

I have seen so little of the ponies at exercise this year that it is with great reluctance I venture to even suggest probable winners, and readers of the Telegraph must take my views rather as guess-work than as opinions based on reliable data. Still, the following predictions may not be far amiss:—

Wong-nel-chong Stakes.—Dunoon or Primrose
Ashley Cup.—Majestic
Hongkong Derby.—Islander
Foonchow Cup.—Timekeeper or the Ewo
Valley Stakes.—Amenable
Luitano Cup.—Merrythought
Canon Cup.—Liberty or Black Pearl
Hongkong Club Cup.—Home Guard or Tallman
Comrades' Cup.—Stoneheger or Varuna.

AN OLD SPORTSMAN.

Hongkong, 2nd February, 1893.

THE VOLUNTEER COMPETITION.

The Hongkong Volunteer Artillery held a 64-pound gun competition on Saturday last at Stonecutters'. Points were awarded for time in laying the gun (maximum 16) and for accuracy (30 highest possible). The target was fixed at a range of 2,000 yards; a direct hit counted 15 points, a shot in line 25 yards short or 25 over, 10 points, and within 20 yards on either side eight points; so that a shot striking within a rectangle of 16 yards by 50 yards would count. Of the 16 shots, 65 per cent. scored, and 17 per cent. of the shots counted. The officers present were Capt. McCallum (commanding) Surgeon Cantile, Lt. Derson, Lt. Scott, and Lt. Nicholson. R. A. Adj. H.K.V.

The following were the scores:—

	TIME	AIM	TOTAL
Gr. M. Fredericks	15	18	33
(Winner of Challenge Cup)			
Sgt. Powell	15	18	33
Gr. Jupp	13	20	33
Co. Jackson	8	10	18
Co. Rivers	8	10	18
Gr. Soender	8	10	18
Gr. Beavin	8	10	18
Gr. Pearson	8	10	18
Gr. Moore	8	10	18
Gr. Brown	8	10	18
Gr. Hancock	4	8	12
(Recruits)			
Gr. Robertson	8	10	18
Gr. Armstrong	8	10	18
Gr. C. Biddood	8	10	18
Gr. Lafferty	4	10	14
Gr. Wylie	4	10	14
Gr. Watling	4	10	14
The remainder did not score.			

EXTENSION OF CONTRACTS.

It may safely be said that three out of every four large contracts for work are not fulfilled until after the time specified; but it would be too much to say that the fault generally lies with the contractors. "Nothing is certain but the unforeseen" and it only too often happens that when tenders are invited for large works, the decision is given more or less blindingly in favour of the tenderer who makes the least allowance for unexpected contingencies, and who thus can offer the cheapest bargain to be fulfilled in the shortest time. It is very similar with more enterprises of a speculative nature; when shares are offered to the public, money is subscribed most readily to those ventures which promise the biggest and quickest returns, with less reservation in case of difficulties which may be overlooked at the time or may arise quite beyond the range of possible anticipations.

In the matter of railway contracts, these remarks apply with especial force, so that contractors of apparently tardy work is a difficult and dangerous task, but none the less it is an imperative duty in the public interests. *Indian Engineering* is a paper which has often done yeoman service in exposing real abuses, blinding hard and straight to the mark the editor, Mr. Doyle, has been tried in the fierce fire of libel suits, and not found wanting. This fact in itself an exceedingly potent force for, for we have good reason to know, a libel action is never decided in favour of defendant if there is the least possible loophole through which

to get at him. Further, there is no more terrible stern and severe school of right accuracy than the training acquired in fighting libel actions; so that a paper which is triumphantly vindicated in the courts must be a very monument of truth. We have therefore not much doubt that *Indian Engineering* can, if called on, fully prove its assertions in reference to Murray, Campbell & Co., the contractors now engaged on the Kinta Valley Railway in Perak and in Selam.

The fifteen miles of the Kinta Valley Railway in the Ipoh section from Kinta to Ipoh should, by the conditions of the contract, be open for traffic by the 1st of April 1893, but very grave doubts are being entertained, owing to the very slow and indifferent manner in which the contractors have gone about the work, whether April 1894 will see traffic communication established between the two very important places if the works are allowed to remain in the hands of Messrs. Campbell and Co., the contractors.

The Government of Perak were led five years ago, to invest a great deal of surplus revenue on the construction of Railways by the high percentage paid for passenger and traffic earnings on the short line constructed from Taiping to Port Weld, and the first line of any length decided on was from Telok Anson, a port a little below the junction of the Kinta with the Perak River, to Ipoh, one of the largest centres of the tin mining industry in the State, and daily growing into greater importance as a centre of trade.

The Government having decided on having surveys and estimates prepared for the above project, Messrs. Swan and MacLaren, an Engineering firm of high reputation in Singapore, were entrusted with the work of aligning and locating the line, and with a large staff of Engineers working from different centres the locating, levelling and estimating was soon completed.

The next step, that of construction, was immediately decided upon. Tenders were called for in the usual course and the contract of the sixteen miles of line from Telok Anson to Tapah, were let to Mr. G. D. Gordon, his tender being considered the most satisfactory. This section of line was known as the "Tapah section" and work was commenced on it in 1890. In 1891, a year following, tenders were called for the Ipoh section, a distance of 34 miles—from Tapah to Ipoh; and the tender of Messrs. Campbell and Co. was accepted as the most promising.

Work, however, has not been done satisfactorily on any of the two sections. The Government, feeling that Mr. G. D. Gordon, who had the contract for the Tapah section, was likely to be behind time, undertook the work of providing labor and making payments out of Government funds to his sub-contractors while yet keeping his name in the contract.

The procedure described in the preceding paragraph was an unusual one and would never have been allowed in India or any other part of the globe; but the Government were anxious that there should be as little delay as possible in the work of construction, and as this step placed the contractor's Engineers at the disposal of the Government, the further difficulty of increasing the Government staff with men unacquainted with the country and labor was thereby averted.

Similar steps, on the part of the Government towards the contractors of the Ipoh section, whose works have been allowed to fall into the greatest state of confusion, would have paid the Government most handsomely had they been adopted. The contract for the Ipoh section was signed in October 1891, and work was commenced in the following month—November. Messrs. Campbell and Co.'s tender was the lowest. There is no doubt that for the rates they had tendered, the work could easily have been done quickly and profitably;—and they only employed an efficient staff of Engineers as laid down in one of the conditions of their contract; and in the non-enforcement of which condition the Government are greatly to blame for the chaotic state into which the works have been allowed to fall.

The preliminary works of clearing jungle and collecting tools and plant were satisfactorily carried out at the start, a large number of Kling and Chinese coolies poured in to be employed on the work of throwing up embankments and taking out cuttings. The laborers, after three months or so, however, became very distrustful and at the end of this time 60 to 70 per cent. had left the works in sheer disgust at the treatment they had received at the hands of Mr. Alexander, the Managing Engineer of Messrs. Campbell and Co. No amount of subsequent persuasion would induce the Kling or Chinese coolies to return to the work—no deep hold of distrust had set in all round.

So far is the explanation given for the delay in the prosecution of the earthwork; but a competent staff, with a little tact would have overcome these difficulties. Even the Government of Perak offered a helping hand through the Protector of Chinese to procure labor from Sumatra when the tobacco-growing industry was in a great state of depression, but the offer was studiously refused by Mr. Murray Campbell. Messrs. Campbell and Co.'s Managing Engineer, Mr. J. H. Alexander, and his non-professional assistants, having broken down over a year and a half for earthwork, it is not surprising that they were totally incompetent to undertake the more difficult task of collecting materials for bridges and station buildings and arranging for their speedy execution.

Messrs. Howarth, Erskine, and Co. were offered the subcontract for all bridges of over 40 feet waterway, and they expressed their willingness to undertake the same and sent Mr. Dunlop, an able Engineer of their firm, who has the reputation of being one of the best bridge-builders in the Straits Settlements to Batu Gajah to arrange about starting work. Mr. Dunlop's energy, ability and power of overcoming difficulties had been proved in the commencement and completion of the bridge over the Klang river on the line of railway from Kuala Lumpur to Klang. His visit, however, ended in nothing satisfactory. Mr. Alexander, not having had sufficient administrative experience of large works to find himself competent enough to settle with him.

Messrs. Campbell and Co. saw this and a change in the management of their works in Perak was decided upon. But they unfortunately went from bad to worse. A man named Mackay from India was then taken on and placed in charge with Mr. J. H. Alexander as *adjoining Engineer*; this latter step was necessary, owing to Mr. Mackay not being an engineer. The change, however, was fruitless of no good result.

Messrs. Howarth, Erskine and Co. were again asked to take up the sub-contract of the larger bridges and an agreement was come to with them; but the best part of the dry season had been allowed to pass without advantage being taken of it, and August saw no material whatever in the shape of stone or concrete, sand or lime for mortar, or any burnt bricks at the sites of any of the bridges. The muddling of bricks in fact started only in August. Three or four small culverts had been erected and constructed with the small size Chinese bricks bought locally, but their unsuitability for railway works, especially when great pressure had to be borne, was demonstrated by the cracking of the north and south abutments of a 10-foot girder bridge, a mile out of the Batu Gajah station yard.

The contractors will doubtless have many excuses to offer for their serious shortcomings, but we believe that their chief trump card for the delay in the opening of the line will be that the executive did not supply drawings for bridges, and that a small deviation of one mile was put in to shorten the distance into Batu Gajah. Such excuses as these are too frivolous to be tenable—except in Selam!

Mr. Murray Campbell has thus achieved an unenviable reputation in the Straits for slow work and as a bad payer; and it will be the fault of the Government of Perak if they do not come down upon him with a heavy hand. His victims are many and their cries call for the necessity of Government intervention for the credit of the State. The Perak Government must insist on his contracts being carried out in the letter and denounce back-sliding however perpetrated under theegis of his name or authority.

Messrs. Campbell and Co. are old offenders. They failed to carry out the Pawang extension of the Selangor Railway from Kuala Lumpur to Rawang, a distance of 20 miles, within the contract time. The extension from Rawang to Kuala Kubu on the same line is likely to be much behind time also; and now we have the Ipoh section of the Kinta Valley Railway only about one-third done, and that only two months before the opening time!

The public naturally being surprised at the manner in which these works are being allowed to drag their weary way along, But those behind the scenes know that Mr. Murray Campbell has undertaken more than he can accomplish. We trust the Director of the Royal Railroad Department in Selam will take heed of this, and not allow him any privileges in the matter of extensions, and above all insist that he should fulfil his obligations to those who may have the misfortune to serve under him.

FOOCHOW RACES.

PROGRAMME OF THE SPRING MEETING.

FIRST DAY, TUESDAY, 21ST MARCH, 1893.
THE SPRING CUP, value \$100; entrance \$5; for all China ponies; weights as per scale. Half a mile.

THE COAST STAKES, of \$5 each, with \$50 added; for Foonchow and Amoy subscription ponies; weights as per scale. One mile.

THE AMOY CUP, (presented); value \$100; for all China ponies; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile and three quarters.

THE YUENFOO STAKES, of \$10 each; for all China ponies; weights as per scale; winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra. Seven furlongs.

THE HACK STAKES, of \$10 each with \$10 added for each starter; for all China ponies not otherwise entered. Seven pounds over weight for losers. Four furlongs.

THE DEMOCRAT CUP, (presented); value \$100; for all China ponies; weights as per scale; winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra; entrance \$5. One mile.

THE RACING STAKES, of \$5 each with \$50 added for the first and \$25 for the second pony; for Foonchow and Amoy subscription ponies; weights as per scale; winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra. One mile and a half.

THE NANTAI STAKES, of \$10 each, divided 70 per cent 20 per cent and 10 per cent to first, second and third pony; a forced entry for all ponies entered at this meeting; weights as per scale. One mile and a quarter.

SECOND DAY, WEDNESDAY, 22ND MARCH.

THE FOYHIN CUP, (presented), value \$100; second pony to receive \$25, third pony \$15. For all China ponies; weights as per scale; winners of one race at this meeting 7 lbs. extra, of 2 or more races 12 lbs. extra; subscription ponies allowed 7 lbs.; entrance \$5. One mile and a half.

THE MIN STAKES, of \$5 each with \$50 added; second pony to receive \$25; for Foonchow and Amoy subscription ponies; weights as per scale; winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra, of 2 or more races 12 lbs. extra; ponies that have never won a race allowed 5 lbs.; previous Non-starters at this meeting excluded. Three quarters of a mile.

THE RACK FUND CUP, (presented), value \$100; for all China ponies; weights as per scale; winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra; ponies that have never won a race allowed 5 lbs.; Entrance \$5; Once round.

THE PAGODA CUP, value \$100; second pony to receive \$25; for Foonchow and Amoy subscription ponies; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile and a quarter.

THE CONSOLATION CUP, value \$100 with \$25 added for the second pony; for all *hand* *riders* beaten ponies that have run at this meeting and not won a race; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile.

THE CHAMPION STAKES, of \$10 each with \$50 added; a forced entry for all winners at this meeting except of Consolation Stakes; winners of two races \$15 extra, and of more than two races \$25 extra; previous Non-starters excluded; weights as per scale. One mile and a quarter.

THE WELTER PLATE, value \$100; for all China ponies; catch-weights over 11 stone 7 lbs. Non-winners at this meeting allowed 7 lbs.; riders who have never won a race allowed 7 lbs.; entrance \$5. Three quarters of a mile. Entries close on Saturday, 4th March, 1893, at noon.

NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.

On the 4th instant, an inmate of the Shan Yuen Hsien prison, was taken out of the goal and conducted to the execution ground where he was decapitated. The culprit had been a party to many robberies.

Recently crowds of disorderly people and bad characters have arrived at Chinching, and have been indulging in various misdeeds to the great disgust of the residents. However, the authorities are now aware of the evil, and officers are charged with the task of keeping a watch on these persons.

The Nanking Viceroy has taken \$10,000 from the government fund for the purpose of remunerating the various parties of soldiers who participated in the work of repairing the Nanjing city walls, which are now, according to the report of the officials who inspected the work, in a strong and solid condition. The Viceroy has also ordered sums of money to be given to the soldiers, who are engaged in dredging and deepening the channels of the waterways, in addition to their monthly allowance. This action of the Viceroy was prompted by the zeal and diligence of the soldiers, who performed their work in the recent cold weather in a commendable manner.

FOOCHOW NOTES.

It is reported in the city, that one of the principal junk has been taken, or sunk, by the Imperial gun-boats sent out in search of the fleet (see page 1).

Referring to the temporary scarcity of rice, reported in our last issue, there has been some small relief through the cargoes brought down by the steamers *Taku* and *Hsin Yu*, though still altogether insufficient to allow of the price being lowered; indeed, so far from the chance of a glut, we are given to understand that there would have been "further rise" but for the intervention of the mandarin.

For some time past shipmasters and pilots have been complaining of the long line of fishing boats obstructing the river channel by Spicel Island. The narrow passage left, has more than once led to collisions, which the shipping in port ought never to have been subjected to. The matter has been brought to the notice of the Authorities, but, so far, the evil has not been remedied.

The Steamer *Yuen* is reported to be exceedingly disappointing to the growers. Until the severe cold weather set in and the snow made its appearance, a fair average crop was expected; then, all calculations were upset, and as a result only fifty per cent of the anticipated yield was realized. Two thirds of the crop are usually exported to Ningpo and Shanghai, but this year the shipments to these ports will be very small, the local consumption of the cane being considerable.

Again, the Hsu Hui lottery is responsible for a large fire in the City. In spite of the proclamations ordering it to be stopped it goes on with the same vivacity, as ever. In this case a joss paper function was being held in a house to ascertain what the winning number might be, and, as was the case last time, the lot place, the occupants of the house had not been careful to see that all the lights had been extinguished before retiring to bed. The consequence was that when the alarm was given, by some neighbor, the fire which had been out in the meantime, had obtained such a hold on the building that they had only time to escape with their lives from the roof on the adjoining house. That also took fire, and the flames had by this time grown so strong that two hundred houses were eventually destroyed before the fire could be got under. Some five hundred families have thereby been rendered homeless and are without means to carry them over the New Year. At the same time the disaster materially affects others, as engagements made by these families to meet liabilities in anticipation of the New Year festival, cannot now be carried out. The disaster itself and the consequent loss have, as observed before, been brought about by the trifling Hsu Hui lottery. The inherent evil of gambling amongst the natives may be difficult to overcome, but we cannot understand the Authorities issuing proclamations to suppress this form of it without taking steps to enforce their laws.—*Echo*.

AMOY.

(SHANGHAI MERCURY'S CORRESPONDENT.)

Amoy, February 10th.
There is hardly anything to report, except a few movements about amongst our men-of-war visitors, and ashore that it is contemplated by the Amoy Government of Amoy to have one of their ships, the *Yuen*, to visit the Amoy social gatherings on Kulang, on the 14th instant.

The Japanese corvette *Tenryu* left for the Pescadore Islands on the 29th instant, combining target practice with the cruise. She returned to port on the 4th instant, and will probably stay here until after Chinese New Year. On the 8th instant two powerful ironclads, the *Ting-yun* and *Chih-yuen*, arrived here from the south, and anchored in the Outer Harbour, with Admiral Ting, the commander of the *Pingyang* Squadron, on board. The *Chih-yuen* is the only ironclad in the Chinese fleet, and she is the only one of the *Tenryu*, relating to the naval entente cordiale between the two Asiatic great powers in eastern waters. The B-lish gunboat *Redoubt* arrived here to-day from Swatow, where everything is reported quiet at present, and is supposed to remain so, for all that is known here to the contrary, except the uproarious hubbub which the natives may kick up at China New Year, in customary style. The R.C. *Pinghing* has been kept busy with her rounds in the southern high-seas; she left here on the 9th inst. for Okean, Ternat, and Middle Island, with Mr. Southey on board, whence she is to return to your port, *via* Foonchow.

The iron barque *Confiance* has been withdrawn from sale; she has been in dock lately, and is preparing now to proceed to the Colonies, where she is owned. Besides her, the only other sailing vessel in port is the barque *Therese*, also for sale.

The weather has been rather changeable lately, and has exhibited a multifariousness of peculiarities; some days, we have experienced fine, regular weather, but this night has been rather chilly.

ICHANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

4th February, 1893.

As the time advances towards the period of the Chinese New Year, so speculation increases as to whether there will be excitement at this port. At present the sporting community are not offering any odds on the event, as the official opinion that none need be expected. Still these prophesies may not be realized, as all the elements of rowdiness will be present in the persons of wild and irresponsible Yangtze trackers who assemble in their hundreds at Ichang to keep the festival. Junks passing either up or down to Shai, pull up before entering the gorges and wait several days rather than bury themselves in these watery tunnels on the eve of their holiday, and others hurry down to be present at the merry-making to say nothing of those which regularly trade to the port of Ichang, and many others who will be in the New Year have been welcomed. Thus, altogether, there is an unusual number of these hardy, undesirable, samshu-dinkers always on hand at the upper city of the plains during this season. Whether they will be content to drink their wine and enjoy themselves among themselves, or be induced to seek amusement in annoying foreigners, by scheming apostles of Cheat Han, remains to be seen.

Missionaries passing up and down above this city are reported to have been having a somewhat bad time in the junks during the recent cold weather. One can easily realize that, when it has been difficult to keep at a decent temperature in more comfortable quarters, Ichang is now without a foreign head to its American Mission. The shell of the house of its late leader still stands, the last ghastly relic of the trouble of 1891; but, alas, the minister is gone.

Another public question will soon be upon us—will the public be allowed to have a street and a public gathering—will a fit and proper place to bury our dead. At present there are two; one, belonging to the Roman Catholics, enclosed with a wall, about a mile below the New Consulate; the other, a general one on the opposite side of the river, cheek by jowl with the Chinese; in fact the few foreigners' graves there are in the middle, and form a part of a wilderness of mounds, without any partition or screen whatever from their Chinese neighbors. This is not the worst; there is no more room for any of the kind; but, alas, the public are not allowed to have a public gathering—will a fit and proper place to bury our dead. 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